



**Charter Commission Minutes  
Special Meeting  
City of Las Vegas Council Chambers  
1700 North Grand Avenue  
Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Apodaca called the meeting to order at 1:48p.m.

**Roll Call**

**Present**

Commission Chair Apodaca  
Commission Vice Chair Salazar  
Commissioner Martinez  
Commissioner Madrid  
Commissioner Einer  
Commissioner Ludi

**Also Present**

Darlene Arguello, City Staff  
David Ulibarri, City Councilor  
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

**Absent**

Mayor Louie Trujillo

**Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Apodaca called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Martinez made a motion to approve the agenda with the modification that Mayor Trujillo would be present at a later date.

Commissioner Ludi seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously with amendments.

## **Public Input**

No public input was submitted via email to Darlene Arguello.

## **Discussion**

1. Charter Review - Information and Insights from Councilor Ulibarri, City Clerk Casandra Fresquez and Mayor Trujillo.

### **Councilor Ulibarri:**

Councilor Ulibarri stated that previous administration, Corinna (previous City Attorney), about 2-3 years ago, was working on some items on the Charter and stated that he did not have the paperwork on the concerns that they had discussed but would like to go back and see if she documented anything or not.

Councilor Ulibarri expressed that one of his concerns was that the Mayor and City Manager were overpowered in the Charter. He also stated that he wanted to see the changes that the Charter Commission was going to bring to Council.

Commission Chair Apodaca elaborated on the process they would be taking with the recommended changes and advised Councilor Ulibarri of the concerns and suggestions that have already been brought up and discussed.

Commissioner Madrid expressed that she would like to hear Councilor Ulibarri's thoughts and suggestions.

Councilor Ulibarri stated that the previous Attorney was working on some changes to the Charter because there were issues at the City. He also stated that one of the items they were looking at was the power of the Mayor and City Manager.

Chairman Apodaca elaborated on some of the items that were being specifically looked at. Further lengthy discussion was held.

Councilor Ulibarri expressed that he did not believe that there was a need for eight (8) councilmen. He stated that the increase would take more money and that the current administration with four (4) councilmen was working fine.

Commissioner Martinez elaborated on his experience when there were eight (8) councilmen and expressed that he supported that.

Further lengthy discussion was held.

Lengthy discussion was also held in regards to the Governing Body Rules and Procedures and the Ordinances and also the Campaign and Ethics Board.

Councilor Ulibarri asked if other City Charters had been looked at for comparison. Further brief discussion was held in regards to this topic.

Some discussion was also held in regards to obtaining legal counsel.

Chairman Apodaca advised Councilor Ulibarri that he would have Darlene Arguello look into seeing if there were any notes or documentation that previous Attorney Laszlo-Henry had worked on and left somewhere.

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez:

Ms. Fresquez advised the Commission that she had been with the City since this Charter was adopted in 2012 so she has had knowledge of what's been going on with it and also her first election entailed placing the Charter on the ballot.

Ms. Fresquez's first (1<sup>st</sup>) item for consideration was that the Charter calls for ordinances in several places especially in elections. She stated that currently she is following state statute.

Further lengthy discussion was held in regards to ordinances that have needed to be adopted in correspondence with the Charter.

Commissioner Einer asked if it would help to task the City Attorney with bringing the issues to the attention of the Governing Body to be addressed. Ms. Fresquez agreed.

Further lengthy discussion was held.

Ms. Fresquez's second (2<sup>nd</sup>) item for consideration was Section 2.05(c) Vacancy in Office. She stated that the fifteen (15) days should be removed and keep the forty-five (45) days.

Commissioner Einer elaborated on his interpretation of the language.

Further discussion was held regarding this topic.

Ms. Fresquez's third (3<sup>rd</sup>) item for consideration was Section 2.07(A) Organizational Meeting. She expressed concern that the organizational meeting was set to take place too soon and that it never happens at the time it is set to. She stated that there is more time needed to get everything together.

Commissioner Martinez elaborated on the process that was previously taken and suggested they change it to ninety (90) days; Ms. Fresquez agreed that the ninety (90) days would be sufficient time.

Commissioner Martinez asked if the elections were going to start being held in November. Ms. Fresquez stated that we missed the deadline for this year but we can opt in for the election in 2024.

Further lengthy discussion was held in regards to elections.

Ms. Fresquez's fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) item for consideration was the Governing Body Rules of Procedure. She stated that the last administration repealed them and were following Robert's Rules. She stated that these rules were a little harder to understand. She suggested that they be put back in place through a resolution rather than an ordinance which takes more time and procedures to put in place.

Further brief discussion was held.

Meeting had to adjourn before Ms. Fresquez could finish presenting her suggestions. She will put the rest of her suggestions in writing and submit them to the Commission. Chairman Apodaca stated he would like to have her back at the next meeting to continue.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Madrid made a motion to adjourn.

Commission Vice Chair Salazar seconded the motion.

Motion to adjourn passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

  
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Commission Chair Apodaca

8/17/2021  
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Date